

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions.

1 (cancelled).

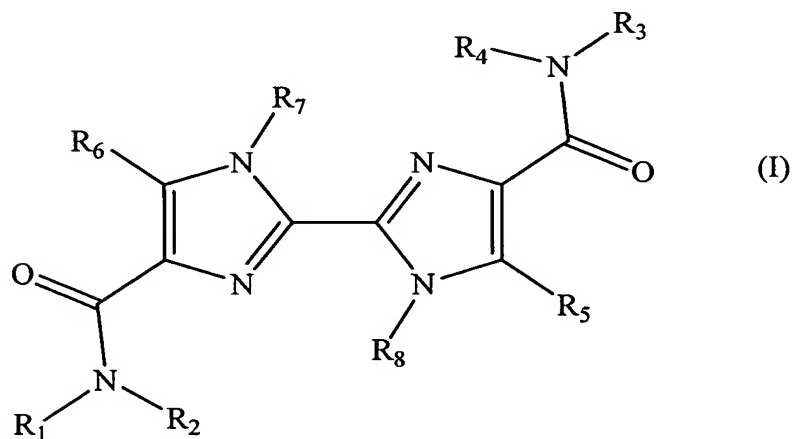
2 (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein at least one of R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ is a macrocyclic ligand.

3 (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein at least one of R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ is a lipophilic group.

4 (previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein said compound of Formula I is immobilized on a solid support.

5-6 (cancelled).

7 (currently amended) A method of binding an anion, comprising contacting an anion to a compound of Formula I so that said anion is bound thereto;



wherein:

R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ are each independently H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl, substituted alkynyl, aryl, substituted aryl, alkylaryl, substituted alkylaryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, alkoxy,

substituted alkoxy, arylalkenyl, substituted arylalkenyl, arylalkynyl, substituted arylalkynyl, aroyl, acyl, heterocyclic, substituted heterocyclic, halogen, cyano, nitro, macrocyclic ligand, and lipophilic groups;

R₅ and R₆ are each independently H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl, substituted alkynyl, aryl, substituted aryl, alkylaryl, substituted alkylaryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, arylalkenyl, substituted arylalkenyl, arylalkynyl, substituted arylalkynyl, aroyl, acyl, heterocyclic, substituted heterocyclic, halogen, cyano, nitro, or a macrocyclic ligand; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently H or lower ~~alky~~alkyl.

8 (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said anion is sulfate.

9-17 (cancelled).